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APPLICATION

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FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

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SPECIFICATION

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TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT I, ROBERT D. CRUMPLEY, a citizen of
25 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have invented a new and useful
CAMOUFLAGED INFLATION DEVICE of which the following is a
specification:

CAMOUFLAGED INFLATION DEVICE

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to inflation devices and more particularly pertains to a new inflation device for providing a poolside device for inflating toys, rafts and the like.

15 Description of the Prior Art

The use of inflation devices is known in the prior art. While these devices fulfill their respective, particular objectives and requirements, the need remains for a device that is sufficiently camouflaged as different 20 object so that it does not make an unseemly sight when positioned in an easily accessible location, particularly by a pool so that it may be used for inflating rafts and inflatable toys.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention meets the needs presented above by a housing that includes a bottom wall, a top wall and a peripheral that is attached to and extends downwardly from the top wall. The peripheral wall has a bottom edge having a peripheral lip thereon for receiving a peripheral edge 30 of the bottom wall. The housing is camouflaged to appear as a poolside object. An air compressor is mounted on the bottom wall for providing pressurized air. An air supply hose has a first end fluidly coupled to the

air compressor and a second end extending outwardly through a first aperture in the peripheral wall. Pressurized air supplied by the air compressor flows outwardly through the second end of the hose.

5 There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the invention in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are additional features of the invention that will be described hereinafter and which will
10 form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

The objects of the invention, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure.

15 **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The invention will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the
20 following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a schematic perspective view of a camouflaged inflation device according to the present invention.

25 Figure 2 is a schematic cross-sectional view taken along line 2-2 of Figure 1 of the present invention.

30 Figure 3 is a schematic cross-sectional view taken along line 3-3 of Figure 2 of the present invention.

Figure 4 is a schematic perspective view of alternate embodiments of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to Figures 1 through 4 thereof, a new inflation device embodying the principles and concepts of the present invention and generally designated by the reference numeral 10 will be described.

As best illustrated in Figures 1 through 4, the camouflaged inflation device 10 generally comprises a housing 12 that includes a bottom wall 14 and a top wall 16. A peripheral 18 is attached to and extends downwardly from the top wall 16. The peripheral wall 18 has a bottom edge 20 having a peripheral lip 22 thereon for receiving a peripheral edge 24 of the bottom wall 14. The peripheral lip 22 is not attached to the bottom wall 14 so that it may be easily removed for reasons which will become obvious below.

The housing 12 is camouflaged to appear as a poolside object. Preferably, the top 16 and peripheral 18 walls have an irregular shape and resemble a boulder. Alternatively, the housing 12 may be shaped like a planter 26 or an aquatic animal 28 such as a fish, dolphin or the like. Preferably, the housing 12 is constructed of a plastic material. A plurality of feet 30 is attached to a bottom side of the bottom wall 14. The feet 30 are preferably each comprised of an elastomeric material.

An air compressor 32 is mounted on the bottom wall 14 for providing pressurized air. An air supply hose 34 has a first end 36 fluidly coupled to the air compressor 32 and a second end 38 extending outwardly through a first aperture 40 in the peripheral wall 18. The first aperture 40 is positioned generally adjacent to the bottom edge 20. Pressurized air supplied by the air compressor 32 flows outwardly through the second end 38 of the hose 34. A valve 42 for selectively opening or closing the hose 34 is fluidly coupled to the second end 38 of the hose 34. Though the air

compressor 32 may include gas powered air compressors, it is preferred that the air compressor 32 be electrically powered and a power supply cord 44 is electrically coupled to the air compressor 32 for supplying electricity to the air compressor 32. The power supply cord 44 extends through a 5 second aperture 46 in the peripheral wall 18. The first aperture 40 is positioned generally opposite with respect to the second aperture 46 in the peripheral wall 18. A window 48 extends through the peripheral wall 18 to provide an air inlet for the air compressor 32. A mesh screen 50 is positioned in the window 48. An actuator 52 for selectively turning the air 10 compressor 32 on or off is mounted on the exterior surface of the peripheral wall 18 and is operationally coupled to the air compressor 32.

In use, the device 10 is positioned adjacent to a pool for supplying air for inflatable rafts and inflatable toys. The device 10 is camouflaged 15 such that it looks a natural poolside decorative item while having the practical function of supplying compressed air as needed. The elastomeric feet 30 help to lessen vibration of the housing 12 which in turn reduces noise when the device 10 is used. By not attaching the peripheral wall 18 to the bottom wall 14, the user may easily remove the peripheral wall 18 to 20 clean an interior of the housing 12.

With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of 25 operation, assembly and use, are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by the present invention.

30 Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and

changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.